U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE Attorney's Docket Number **Transmittal Letter to the United States** B/O Form PTO-1390 Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) CHEN3968/FJD Concerning a Filing Under 35 USC 371 U.S. Application Number (if known) International Application Number International Filing Date Priority Date Claimed PCT/EP2004/053461 14 Dec. 2004 18 Dec. 2003 Title of Invention Coupling Applicant(s) for DO/EO/US Qi Chen et al. Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items under 35 USC 371: This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 USC 371. 1. × This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 USC 371. 2. This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 USC 371(f)) at any time rather than delay 3. \boxtimes examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 USC 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1). The U.S. has been elected (Article 31). 4. \mathbf{X} 5. A copy of the International Application as filed 35 USC 371(c)(2). X is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). a. has been transmitted by the International Bureau. b. X is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). C. A translation of the International Application into English (35 USC 371(c)(2)). \boxtimes 6.-Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 USC 371(c)(3)) 7. X are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). a. have been transmitted by the International Bureau. b. have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. have not been made and will not be made. d. X A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 USC 371(c)(3)). 8. 9. An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 USC 371(c)(4)). (□ Executed □ Unexecuted) A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 10. (35 USC 371(c)(5)).Items 11 to 16 below concern other document(s) or information included: An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 11. An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is 12. included. A preliminary amendment. 13. An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76. 14. X 15. A substitute specification. A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. 16. Priority is claimed for German application no. 10359867.7 with a filing date of 18 Dec. 2003. 17. X A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 18. A second copy of the English translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4) 19. a copy of the International Application WO 2005/0560042 A1 Other items or information: 20. \boxtimes

a.

A check in the amount of \$900 to cover the fees is enclosed.

b. □ Please charge my **Deposit Account Number 02-0200** in the amount of ______ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

c.

■ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 02-0200. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Note: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

23364

Customer Number Phone: (703) 683-0500

DATE: June 16, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Charged:

Felix 8. D'Ambrosio

Attorney for Applicant

Registration Number: 25,721